

# THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR.

"Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."—JESUS CHRIST.

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Tuesday, February 15, 1870.

Price One Penny.

## THE LAST RAIL OF THE U. C. R. R.

(From the Deseret News, Jan. 11.)

MONDAY (Jan. 10) was the day appointed for the laying of the last rail of the Utah Central Railroad. The weather was very cold, and a heavy fog and rime frost prevailed until long past mid-day. This, however, did not prevent a large concourse of citizens of all ages and grades assembling on the depot block.

Shortly after noon a salute of three guns was fired as a signal for the hoisting of flags from the various business places throughout the city. Between one and two o'clock the train containing the invited guests from Ogden and the North hove in sight, and immediate preparations were made for the performance of the ceremonies of the day. The citizens assembled by this time numbered not less than fifteen thousand.

On the platform car were the following gentlemen:—

Of the Utah Central: Brigham Young, President; Wm. Jennings, Vice President; D. H. Wells, Christopher Layton, and Feramorz Little, Directors; Joseph A. Young, General Superintendent; John W. Young, Secretary; also President Geo. A. Smith, and the following members of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles: President Orson Hyde, John Taylor, Orson Pratt, Wilford Woodruff, C. C. Rich, Lorenzo Snow, F. D. Richards, Geo. Q. Cannon, Brigham Young, jun., and Joseph F. Smith.

Of the Union and Central Pacific Roads: J. E. McEwin, Esq., Master Mechanic C. P. R. R.; G. Cornwell, Esq., C. P. R. R. Conductor, Utah Division; J. Forbes, Esq., General Freight Agent, C. P. R. R.; James Campbell, Esq., Division Superintendent, Utah Division, C. P. R. R.; C. C. Quin, Esq., Master Mechanic U. P. R. R.; T. B. Morris, Esq., Engineer, Utah Division, U. P. R. R.; Chas. Carr, Esq., Assistant Superintendent, Utah Division, U. P. R. R.; J. Mc Cormick and S. Edwards, Esqrs., Agents, U. P. R. R.; G. B. Blackwell, Esq., Agent Pullman's Palace Cars; Walter McKay, Esq., Cashier, U. P. R. R.

Col. F. Anderson, Special Correspondent of the New York *Herald*, occupied a seat at the Reporters' table.

From Camp Douglas: Gen. Gibbons, Col. Hancock, Col. Spencer, Capt. Hollister, Major Benham, Lieut. Sanno, Lieut. Coolidge, Lieut. Benson, Lieut. Armstrong, Lieut. Brandt, Lieut. Jacobs, Lieut. Graffan, Lieut. Wright.

The Camp Douglas, Capt. Croxall's and Tenth Ward Brass Bands, also Capt. Beezeley's martial band were in attendance.

The last spike was driven by President Young. A large steel mallet was used on the occasion, made at the Public Works' blacksmith shop. It

was elegantly chased; on the top there was engraved a bee-hive, surmounted by the inscription "Holiness to the Lord." Underneath the bee-hive were the letters U. C. R. R. The spike, of home-made iron, manufactured by the late N. V. Jones, was ornamented like the mallet, and was made by brother James Lawson. The chasing and engraving on both hammer and spike were the work of Mr. Reis, metal-lurgist, of the 16th Ward.

Just before the ceremony of laying the last rail commenced, the sun, which, during the whole day, had been completely concealed by clouds, burst forth with unclouded brilliancy, as if determined to enhance the general joy by his genial rays.

After the performance of the ceremony, which took place about nine minutes past two o'clock, a salute of thirty-seven guns, one for each mile of the road, was fired, when Captain Croxall's brass band burst forth with their enlivening strains, after which the following prayer was offered by

ELDER WILFORD WOODRUFF.

O, God, our Eternal Father, we have assembled on this occasion to celebrate one of the greatest and grandest events of the generation in which we live, and we offer up the gratitude of our hearts, with thanksgiving, for thy merciful and protecting care that has been over us. When we were led into these valleys, by thy servant Brigham, twenty-two years ago, we found them a perfect desert, inhabited only by wild beasts, and a few red men who roamed over the plains. To-day we behold teeming thousands of the Anglo-Saxon race, many of whom have assembled here to celebrate the completion of a line of railroad into this city, which has opened up commerce between us and all the world. Thou hast enabled thy Saints, who have gathered here from the nations of the earth, to fill these valleys of the mountains with 600 miles of cities, towns, villages, gardens, orchards and fields, and the desert has been made to blossom as the rose. We should be recreant to our duties did we not acknowledge the hand of Thee, our God, in thy protecting care that has been over us, which has enabled us to

assist in levelling these mountains and in laying an iron band which has bound this continent together from ocean to ocean, and has made all the various States and Territories of this mighty nation neighbors to each other. For all these blessings we feel to render the gratitude of our hearts unto Thee, and we pray that thy blessings may rest upon us this day.

We dedicate this railroad unto thee, the Lord our God; we pray that thy blessings may rest upon it, and upon those who have erected and labored upon it. We thank thee for the peace and quietude that we have enjoyed for the many years that we have dwelt in these valleys of the mountains. Continue thy blessings, O God, we beseech thee, unto the inhabitants here and throughout the nation.

These favors and blessings we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

The following speech was read by Hon. Geo. Q. Cannon, on behalf of

PRESIDENT B. YOUNG.

Whilst joining in the pleasing ceremonies of this eventful and auspicious day, our minds naturally revert to the circumstances which led this people to undertake their weary but hopeful journey across the desert plains and rugged mountains to these then sterile valleys—to our condition at the time of our advent here, poor, and destitute of the common necessities of life; driven from our homes and possessions, and bereft of all that makes life comfortable in consequence of our faith in God and in His Son Jesus Christ, and our obedience to His holy Gospel, and without a friend in this wide world to whom we could look for help, except God our Heavenly Father alone, on whom we could rely.

Since the day that we first trod the soil of these valleys, have we received any assistance from our neighbors? No, we have not. We have built our homes, our cities, have made our farms, have dug our canals and water ditches, have subdued this barren country, have fed the stranger, have clothed the naked, have immigrated the poor from foreign lands, have placed them in a condition to make all comfortable and have made some rich.

We have fed the Indians to the amount of thousands of dollars yearly, have clothed them in part, and have sustained several Indian wars, and now we have built thirty-seven miles of railroad.

All this having been done, are not our cities, our counties and the Territory in debt? No, not the first dollar. But the question may be asked, is not the Utah Central Railroad in debt? Yes, but to none but our own people.

Who has helped us to do all this? I will answer this question. It is the Lord Almighty. What are the causes of our success in all this? Union and oneness of purpose in the Lord.

Having by our faith and unaided labors accomplished the work and achieved the triumph, which we today celebrate, we are now asking the parent Government to sanction our labors in this commendable work, and the people of this Territory are also asking to be admitted as a sovereign State into the Union, with all the rights and privileges of a State Government; and I move we have one. Let all in favor of it say "Aye."

A unanimous "Aye" from the assembled thousands was the response.

We have felt somewhat to complain of the Union Pacific Railroad Company for not paying us for the work we did, in grading so many miles of their road. But let me say, if they had paid us according to agreement, this road would not have been graded, and this track would not have been laid to-day. It is all right.

To our friends of the Union and Central Pacific Railroads, we offer our

congratulations on their success in their mighty enterprise. Receive our thanks for your kindness to our company; for, as far as I have learned, you have refused us no favor. Let us be one in sustaining every laudable undertaking for the benefit of the human family; and I thank the companies for their kindness to us as companies, as superintendents, as engineers, as conductors, &c.

I also thank the brethren who have aided to build this, our first railroad. They have acted as Elders of Israel, and what higher praise can I accord to them? for they have worked on the road, they have graded the track, they have laid the rails, they have finished the line, and have done it cheerfully "without purse or scrip."

Our work is not one for individual benefit, but it is an aid to the development of the whole country, and tends to the benefit and prosperity of the whole nation of which we form a part.

To all present I would say, let us lay aside our narrow feelings and prejudices, and, as fellow citizens of this great Republic, join in the celebration of this happy day.

May the blessing of Heaven rest upon us all.

Telegrams expressing regret at their inability to accept the invitation of President Young to be present at the celebration, were read from Governor Stanford, President, A. M. Towne, Esq., General Superintendent, and S. S. Montague, Esq., Chief Engineer of the Central Pacific Road.

Music from the Camp Douglas Band.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

## "THE DARK SPOT ON THE MERSEY."

LIVERPOOL is reproachfully known as "the dark spot on the Mersey," and this in consequence of its abounding drunkenness, doing nearly one-fourth of the aggregate "drunk" business in England and Wales, though possessing only one forty-fourth of the population. Heretofore this town has also enjoyed the unenviable pre-eminence of furnishing the greatest annual percentage

of mortality of any of the dozen largest towns or cities in the kingdom, and the mortality sub-committee of the local health committee, after long and careful consideration, concluded that drunkenness was the chief cause of the terrible death-rate in this town, and recommended a revision of the licensing laws for controlling the sale of intoxicating liquor. Charges of judges

and presentments of juries have referred pointedly to the exceptional amount of drunkenness and consequent crime in Liverpool, and Scripture readers, town readers, and others have declared drunkenness to be on the increase. The juvenile criminals in Liverpool under 16 years of age have more than doubled in number during the last eight years. Of 25 cases, taken promiscuously out of the inmates of an institution for fallen women, the Rev. Dr. Verner M. White found that everyone without exception ascribed her fall and subsequent degradation directly or indirectly to intoxication. It is claimed that a very small per centage of the children of drunken parents are able to get any education, but the majority are driven into the streets to sell matches, beg, or steal.

Mr. Baron Martin, in 1860, said, in charging the grand jury, at Liverpool, the calendar contained every description of crime, except treason, and he had never seen such a calendar in the whole course of his experience. In 1866 he said the list of cases of homicides was the worst he had ever seen in the course of a long experience, and drunkenness seemed to be the cause of nine-tenths of all the crime that was committed.

Mr. Justice Blackburn, in 1863, said "he did not think there ever was any calendar in the least approaching that magnitude in the frightful nature of the crimes, and the amount of crime."

Mr. Justice Mellor, in 1856, said, that "nearly every one of the cases of manslaughter was distinctly to be traced to drunkenness. He read the depositions in those cases with horror." In 1867 he said he had found in Liverpool and one or two other of the larger towns, but chiefly in Liverpool, "that the most brutal crimes arose from the influence of drunkenness," "in Liverpool he found more resulting from drunkenness than in any other place," "he did not know any large town in which they (the judges) had the misfortune to see so many crimes of violence resulting from drunkenness as in this particular town of Liverpool," "most of the crimes of manslaughter (1866) appeared to him to be the result

of intoxication and drunkenness."

Lord Chief Justice Bovill, 1867, said "he believed from his own experience that the circumstances of nine-tenths of the crime that came under investigation were drunkenness," many of the cases were "in which the persons did not belong to the criminal classes, but had been led through excessive drinking to commit crimes at which, in their sober senses, they would have been as shocked as any of them could be."

Grand juries have frequently made presentments of similar import.

Mr. Edmund Ashworth, visiting justice, 1866, remarked, "In the borough of Liverpool they had nearly 10,000 prisoners a year, and the recommitments were 58 per cent., while the number of prisoners to the population of Liverpool was one in every 45½—the extreme of criminality of any population in the north of England. \* \* \* It appeared that Liverpool was the most drunken and had the highest range of criminality of any town perhaps in England."

The public of Liverpool having become somewhat aroused upon the subject, a town meeting was held in St. George's Hall, Jan. 28, Mayor Hubback presiding. His worship thought that drunkenness could be put down by unanimity of action, which could be obtained "by each party giving up a little bit of their own peculiar crochets." Progress had been made of late years among the respectable classes, and he hoped they would be able to stamp out drunkenness, "that great and growing sin which disgraced Liverpool at the present time."

Addresses were made, and resolutions were passed deploring the appalling extent of drunkenness in Liverpool, and in favor of a restrictive act, embodying early closing, and Sunday limitation, or entire closing from Saturday to Monday.

As might have been expected, the subject has called forth much local discussion, in the papers and elsewhere, the brewers and publicans being especially interested, as their craft seems to be in danger. Asylum governors attribute the increase of lunacy to drunkenness, Mr. Isaac Glover, a Liverpool brewer, says it is not the

beer, but the badness of it, which makes men mad, that bad beer is ten times worse than bad meat, fish, or fruit, that good beer will do no man any harm, but that dishonest brewers and publicans put grains of paradise, nux vomica, ammonia, and oil of vitriol into their beer, also salt and saltpetre, the two latter, he supposes, for the purpose of making the drinkers thirsty. though one brewer said he put salt in his beer because his father and grandfather did. Mr. Robinson, another Liverpool brewer, contends that adulteration of beer is scarcely ever practised. Who shall decide when brewers disagree? The *Lancet* says, "There can be no doubt that the beer supplied to public houses of the lower classes is 'doctored' to an extent that makes it simply a narcotic poison. We have been assured by a brewer holding many small public houses that any good and wholesome beer sent to them would be at once returned upon his hands. The customers like to feel muddled by what they drink, and to procure this luxury at a small outlay. Laborers refuse to go to this or that house, saying that they had a pint there last week and 'felt nothing of it;' whereas they had a pint at such another one and could scarcely get home. Verily the laboring man is in an evil case. His supposed friends the teetotallers will not begin their reform at the beginning by supplying him with wholesome water. They prefer to spout on platforms; and if they practice what they preach they can buy filters for themselves. His supposed political friends connive at the poisoning of his beer as a custom essential to free trade. And, lastly, there has come into existence a class of persons called 'brewer's druggists'—all honourable men—who mix and sell the various ingredients by which beer is adapted to the tastes of the beer-shop frequenters. Were it not for their kindly interposition, some brewers might hold their hands for fear of going too far. As it is they can buy in a form ready for immediate use the exact quantity of poison per gallon that can be put into their vats, without fear of a coroner's inquest."

The question then arises, why will men drink the public beer? A vestry clerk, on hearing Mr. Glover's affirmations of adulteration, thought "any man must be mad who drinks bad beer." But how can he tell "What's in it?" There may be poison, madness, and "death in the pot," and he not discover that fact until too late. Then why do men buy the public beer? Can't they work without it? On this point, at a late education meeting in the Theatre Royal, Liverpool, Mr. A. G. Mundella, M.P., threw a ray of light in a related remark of a collier in the black country to a temperance missionary, who had been stating the amount of work that a certain teetotaller could do. "Oh," said the collier, "we all know about that; we know we can work well enough without it. But, mester, it's no use, we can't play without it." That may be largely true, but it is to be apprehended also that a great many men will neither play without it nor work without it. They lack the good sense and the good resolution.

Perhaps it is but justice to state that since this beery agitation commenced, at least during the last several weeks, the Liverpool police reports of drunken cases, and the local death rate percentage, have been considerably lightened. But notwithstanding, the Rev. Dr. Verner M. White says of the town and the subject—"We are in a deplorable condition. We have tried to help ourselves. We were unanimous in the remedy proposed. We endeavoured to carry it into effect, but Parliament would not allow us, and promised to do it themselves; we are, therefore, entitled to national sympathy and succour, both for ourselves and for the country at large."

The following remark of the American Dr. Hall, in his *Journal of Health*, may not be inappropriate here—"The doctor who talks about guzzling liquor every day being 'healthy,' is a perfect disgrace to the medical name, and ought to break rock for the term of his natural life, at a shilling a day, and find himself."

George D. Prentiss (Louisville Journal) is dead, aged 66.

## MINUTES OF A LADIES' MASS MEETING

HELD IN SOCIETY HALL, FIFTEENTH WARD, SALT LAKE CITY, JAN. 6, 1870.

(From the Deseret News.)

Meeting opened by prayer by Mrs. R. Jones.

Mrs. S. M. Kimball, by unanimous vote, was appointed to preside over the meeting; Miss S. E. Russell was elected Secretary.

Mrs. Kimball stated the object of the meeting by saying: "We have met to express our feelings in relation to the so called 'Cullom Bill,' now before Congress." She spoke of the part our forefathers had taken in the great struggle of '76—how they had suffered and bled for the principles of civil and religious liberty; said she felt that we should be unworthy of the names we bear and of the blood in our veins, should we longer remain silent while such an infamous Bill was before the House of Representatives—a Bill, the object of which, if attained, would reduce our husbands, sons and brothers to menial serfs, &c. Mrs. Kimball called for a vote of all who were in favor of entering a protest against said Bill.

The vote was unanimous.

The following persons were then chosen as a committee to draft resolutions expressive of the feelings of the meeting, to wit.: Mrs. M. Burton, Mrs. E. Duncanson and Mrs. E. Binder.

The committee retired to prepare resolutions, and in the meantime several ladies expressed their views and feelings of indignation and disgust with regard to the Bill, also their determination to resist such gross injustice, &c.

The committee then returned, and the following resolutions were read by Mrs. Burton:—

*Resolved*, That we, the ladies of the 15th Ward, Salt Lake City, in mass meeting assembled, do solemnly pro-

test against the Bill now before Congress, known as the Cullom Bill.

*Resolved*, That we use all the moral influence vested in us to prevent the national disgrace that would accrue to our country, were such an infamous Bill to receive the approval of Congress.

*Resolved*, That the passage of the aforesaid Bill would stamp disgrace on the insignia of our glorious Republic, and that we disapprove each and every attempt made by those entrusted with the reins of government to destroy the sacred Constitution bequeathed to us by our forefathers.

*Resolved*, That in the name of humanity we express our indignation against the aforesaid Bill, which is calculated in its nature to uproot every vestige of civil and religious liberty, destroy the rights of conscience and to reduce our fathers, husbands and sons to the lowest degree of moral servitude.

The foregoing resolutions were received with warm and enthusiastic applause by all present.

Miss E. R. Snow, Mrs. L. W. Kimball and Mrs. B. Smith made a few very appropriate remarks, expressing their hearty concurrence in the movement and in the measures adopted by the meeting.

Before closing her remarks, Miss E. R. Snow suggested the propriety of the ladies of Salt Lake City assembling in a general mass meeting, to give expression to their feelings on the subject before us, and also that the example of this Ward be followed by the sisterhood throughout the Territory.

Meeting adjourned *sine die*.

Mrs. S. M. KIMBALL, Pres.

Miss S. E. RUSSELL, Sec.

## THE SISTERS AFTER CULLOM.

A correspondent of the New York *World*, out at Salt Lake City at the laying of the last rail of the Utah

Central Railroad, and at the women's mass meeting in favor of celestial marriage, hardly knows what to make

of things. He is evidently convinced that Mormonism is a marvellous work and a wonder. Of the railroad celebration he says—

"Yesterday was the grandest day in Mormon history. The last rail was laid that united the capital of Utah with the rest of the world. It was a grand sight to see the people welcome to their doors the steam engine, that is destined in the providence of progress to bring them so much to disturb their quiet and isolation."

Speaking of President B. Young's remarks that the Territory was not in debt one dollar, and that the U. C. R. R. was in debt only to our own people, the correspondent remarks—"Fortunate thing for Utah to be able to say so. Of no other people could it be said in the same way."

Of the further proceedings of the day, he says—

"In the evening the principal street was brilliantly illuminated and the people entertained with a rich pyrotechnic display. It was the first time that Salt Lake City was so gay and festive. Many of the transparencies were highly creditable in sentiment, design and execution."

"The ball in the theatre was a magnificent affair. There were 375 gentlemen present, with probably an average of three ladies to each. It was a 'much mixed' company. Brigham Young, the head of the church, was there; the Acting Governor of the Territory, S. A. Mann; General Gibbon, Commandant of Fort Douglas, and every officer of the garrison—except the officers of the day—in full dress uniform; the entire Utah legislators, and civic authorities of the cities of Ogden and Salt Lake."

"The parquette of the theatre was boarded over, and thirty-two cotillions were set at one time. Such a mass of moving humanity in a richly illuminated and decorated building, with the inspiring music falling on the ear at the same time, was a view rarely seen. Certainly nothing of the kind was ever witnessed outside of New York, and I doubt if even there."

Such a gathering of saints and sinners, Jews, Gentiles, Mormons, military, judges, and the press, too, necessarily, was certainly never witnessed anywhere. Further must I go; there was not a drop of liquor on the premises, nor anything of the kind hardly to be found in the city. It was a remarkable day, a remarkable night, and one of which every person speaks to-day in terms of enthusiasm. To add further to the obligation of the guests, supper was provided for all at the principal hotel. Whatever may be thought of them to-morrow, the Mormons to-day are excellent 'stock.'"

But the mass meeting of the women of Salt Lake nearly took the hair off the correspondent's head—figuratively, of course. He says—

"Some men are born great," &c., &c.; the Hon. S. C. Cullom, Chairman of the Committee on Territories, is about to have it thrust upon him. Little did that gentleman know the greatness in store for him, when he consented to adopt the new anti-polygamic bill and recommend it a few weeks ago to the House of Representatives. The sisters out here are going for him tooth and nail. They are after him. They are to have a mass meeting in the Tabernacle in two days from now to denounce dear Mr. Cullom. We shall try to be there and listen to the music of the saint sisters. What a sight we expect! Thousands of ladies demanding to have the liberty of sharing the affections, bed, and board of their husbands with less favored sisters! What an age we live in! What wonders doth my eyes behold!

"While some of the sisters down East are clamorous for more husbands and more everything, the sisters here demand the right to have less husbands and less—everything. Curious world!

"Poor Cullom," if he can survive all that and what he is to get before the sisters 'throughout the Territory' are through with him, he is entitled to my vote for President, after the expired term of George Francis Train."

In the time of the Commonwealth Lord Falkland said, "They who hate bishops hate them worse than the devil; and they who love them, do not love them as well as their dinner."

## THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR.

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1870.

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### THE SALT LAKE COUNTRY.

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CONSIDERABLE ignorance and much wilful misrepresentation exist among many people respecting the topography and the agricultural capabilities of the Territory of Utah. The region embraced in that Territory may be roughly stated at as large as England and Wales. But it is a mountainous country, very mountainous, almost all of it mountainous. The valleys, usually small, irregular, and of elevation between 4000 and 5000 feet above the sea, are apparently mostly the mere fillings up of various vast clefts or depressions between the mountains or the mountain chains and spurs, with passes more or less accessible from one valley to another. Compared with the mountains the valleys are exceedingly limited. Of the former, peak upon peak, Alps upon Alps arise. Taking Salt Lake Valley and surrounding mountains representatively and as the principal subjects of our remarks, we may say that brown is the distinguishing color and bareness the distinguishing condition of both mountain and valley. The valley is not wooded at all, with slight exception, and that chiefly willow brush, nor are the mountains, but in a small degree, and most of that inaccessible or nearly so, and high up and far away from the settlements. The higher valleys have comparatively short summers and long winters, and are subject to summer frosts. Only a small portion of Salt Lake Valley is well watered. Some of the higher valleys are better watered and better wooded than Salt Lake Valley. But in nearly all, expensive roads in the cañons have to be made to the timber, and particularly so in Salt Lake Valley. The valleys being so very generally timberless, the only clearing to be done before plowing is of wild sage almost everywhere, and willow, scrub oak and several other shrubs in a few places. The extent of first-class soil is very limited, of second-class there is much more, but nearly all needs irrigation, which frequently entails great expense, originally and annually. In consequence of the distance and semi-inaccessibility of the timber, the fences are not so satisfactory as could be wished.

The general appearance of the country is bare, dreary, and forbidding, and naturally might well lead to the exclamation, "This is Zion, whom no man seeketh after." Some late travellers have called it a paradise, as if it was a place where did "grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food," instead of a treeless, verdureless desert. Mermonism apart, if we had been seeking a paradise, we should not have chosen Salt Lake Valley, nor any other portion of Utah. In natural facilities and primitive beauty we have seen hundreds of places far superior. So much of a paradise as Utah has become is mainly due to the blessing of the Lord upon the faith and ceaseless

labors of His people. To them, fleeing from persecution, and glad of any place promising peace and rest and refuge, Salt Lake Valley was a paradise, evidently reserved in the Providence of God for the very purpose of settlement by them, a purpose consummated not a bit too soon, but in the very nick of time. There they have found peace and quiet and safety, because no man sought after the place and no man desired it, until they had made it desirable, apart from the mere quality of being a place of retreat and refuge.

Until the last few years, Utah was a very arid place. We have seen the season when a heavy shower did not fall between April and November, so far as we can recollect, not enough to lay the dust. The cultivation of the earth and the planting of trees, with the blessing of the Lord, have caused the summer rains to be largely multiplied, the waters in the creeks and springs to be greatly increased, and the natural aridity of the atmosphere to be very materially lessened. The different valleys of the Territory have been dotted with cities and settlements and replenished and beautified with farms and gardens and orchards and shade trees, cattle feed upon a thousand hills and in a hundred cañons and valleys, and it is not to be wondered at that travellers visiting Salt Lake now for the first time, after crossing the barren plains of the Bitter Creek or the equally dreary desert of the Humboldt, should, on dropping into Salt Lake City, a city of gardens and orchards and unwonted peace almost amounting to repose, think for the time they had dropped into a paradise, and think so without considering the costliness of the enterprise and labor, which, under the blessing of God, had wrung from an unwilling and forbidding region all that is paradisiacal in its features, notwithstanding the patent reminder, staring every one in the face, that outside the scope of the immediate labors of man, there is the primitive desert still, in all its bareness, bleakness, and barrenness, and in striking contrast with the inviting freshness of the results of the most sturdy faith and incessant labor.

The fact is, faith and works of no ordinary character have made the Salt Lake country so much of a paradise as it appears to people generally. Faith and good works, and plenty of them, will make a paradise of any place, but there are many and many places upon the face of this earth, that could be converted into paradises, invested with paradisiac attributes, far surpassing Salt Lake Valley, so much as they might need such converting, with the hundredth part of the labor that has been spent there.

The valleys of Utah have subserved an excellent purpose. They were the best places that could be found to serve as a refuge and a nursery for the infant kingdom of God. There it has been cherished and nourished, and has increased its strength, secure from the malice of its enemies, for they have not been able to root it out nor to overthrow it. The Salt Lake country, though far from being the best place in the world naturally, is the very best place for the Saints at present, and will be as long as the Lord wants them there.

J. J.

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THE ELDERS IN THE UNITED STATES.—Elder F. A. Hammond wrote to the *News*, from Patchogue, Long Island, Jan. 7. He did not think the people cared about our peculiar institution, only for political capital. They knew that their own practices were so wicked that they could not condemn us on the question of plurality of wives, even when considered from their own corrupt stand-point. There was much ignorance concerning us and our doctrines,

and no desire to learn anything that had not the ring of money in it, in fact few people seemed to believe in God. Elder Hammond was travelling with brother Hulse, who had baptized eighteen persons the past two years, some of them from among the "first families" on the Island. The prospect was more favorable than at first.

Letters to the *News* from Elders W. W. Sterrett, S. A. Woolley, Evan M. Greene, and E. W. East, all, except brother Sterrett, on missions to the States, report brothers East in Tennessee, S. A. Woolley in Ohio, E. M. Greene in Wisconsin, W. W. Sterrett on business in Pennsylvania. The brethren report having a good time with their relatives and old friends, being received with kindness and courtesy, though few cared about the Gospel, further than from mere curiosity.

Elder Aaron Thatcher wrote to his brother, Elder M. Thatcher, that he and Elder A. Hatch were preaching in Virginia. They reached Martinsburg Jan. 2, and were kindly received by Mr. Robinson, editor of the *Valley Star*, who procured them a hall to preach in, advertised their meetings, and invited them to make his house their home as long as they wished. A Mr. Nelson, a minister of the "United Brethren," had also extended to them the use of his meeting hall, and had expressed a desire to hear them preach.

Bishop A. H. Raleigh wrote to the *News* from Hillsboro, Lower Village, N. H., Jan. 8. He had received nothing but courteous, kind treatment from friends and strangers since he left home. There was a universal desire to hear something of Utah and its people generally, mostly from curiosity, though all seemed to be better satisfied and pleased after hearing than before, and came to the conclusion that the Mormons were no worse than the rest of mankind, even on the social question, and rather better on all others. Bishop Raleigh was invited to be present at the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Lines, of Concord, N. H., on Christmas day, when he had the opportunity of enlightening the company upon the principles of Celestial Marriage, to which nothing was objected. The Bishop says—"Nearly every gentleman that I have conversed with, and I have conversed with a great many, agree that our country is in anything but a favorable condition, politically and socially. As to its religion, it is so near nothing, that very little is said about it. Spiritualism and infidelity seem to pervade the minds of the people, though they themselves do not appear to perceive it, and they almost universally have greenbacks on the brain. They freely acknowledge that there must be a great amount of executive ability in Utah, particularly President B. Young, (not acknowledging the hand of God in anything of course) to have kept the people together under such extreme vicissitudes of life (as I have described) as they have been called upon to pass through on account of the acts and doings of the corrupt administrators of our General and State Governments."

Elder A. C. Brower wrote to the *News* from Pepin, Pepin County, Wis., Jan. 3. At a Methodist meeting which brother Brower attended, the Rev. Felix Wells paraded his ignorance by praying, "Oh, Lord, preserve us from false doctrines and from that crying evil called Mormonism, and from licentiousness and abominations which they are trying to teach in our midst." Elder Brower preached to a full house on polygamy, Jan. 2. The majority voted to hear him preach again. He had appointments out also for Pepin and Plumb Creek. Quite a spirit of inquiry existed among non-church mem-

bers and several were convinced of the Gospel. He thought there was some "wheat" in that country. He found many old Nauvoo apostates, some of whom were taking deep interest in his preaching, using their influence in procuring places for him to preach in, giving out appointments for him, and evidently beginning "to see where they had missed it." What with public meetings, visiting around, receiving visitors, and preaching and talking to them, Elder Brower had his time well occupied.

Elder Milo Andrus wrote from Amherst, Loraine County, Ohio, Dec. 29. His relatives were glad to see him, but had no interest in the Gospel. He had preached in six school houses, a church, and a town hall to full congregations, and had many conversations with all sorts of influential citizens. Not much interest was manifested, but two or three persons were to be baptized. Elder Le Grand Young had been with him for a time, but had gone to see his friends in New York State.

The New York Tribune of Jan. 26, says—"The Mormon bishops and elders are making great exertions to extend their faith in Long Island. A conference was begun at Hempstead on Friday last, and was closed on Sunday."

#### MINUTES OF A CONFERENCE

HELD IN THE TEMPERANCE HALL, UPPER TEMPLE STREET, BIRMINGHAM,  
JANUARY 30, 1870.

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Present on the stand:—Albert Carrington, Pres. of the European Mission; A. P. Shumway, Pres. of the Birmingham, G. Lake, Pres. of the Nottingham, A. H. Neff, Pres. of the Cheltenham, G. H. Knowlden, Pres. of the Southampton, G. Romney, Pres. of the Liverpool, H. B. Clemons, Pres. of the Bedford, P. Nebeker, Pres. of the Leicester, and J. Q. Knowlton, President of the Norwich Conferences; A. Eldredge and C. Shumway, jun., Travelling Elders in the Birmingham Conference, Samuel M. Price, Travelling Elder in the Liverpool Conference; John Tuddenham, L. Garrett and H. O. Spencer, Travelling Elders in the London Conference, and James Lavender, Travelling Elder in the Leicester Conference; and William Willis, Pres. of the Hockley Branch, B. Williams, Pres. of the Stourbridge Branch, A. Wooton, Pres. of the Dudley Branch, J. White, Pres. of the West Bromwich Branch, Robert Sharp, Pres. of the Wolverhampton Branch, and James Goodrich, Pres. of the Chasetown Branch.

10.30 a.m.

Pres. Shumway said the morning

time would be occupied in hearing reports and presenting the authorities.

Elder W. Willis said the Hockley Branch was in a good condition, numbering 423. They had a Sunday school, presided over by Elder Thos. H. Moore, which was doing well.

Elder B. Williams said the Stourbridge Branch numbered 43, most of whom were feeling well.

Elder Abram Wooton said the Dudley Branch was improving.

Elder John White said the West Bromwich Branch was not in as good a condition as he could wish. Owing to emigration, &c., their numbers were less than at last Conference, but there were some as good Saints as he could wish.

Elder Robert Sharp said the Wolverhampton Branch numbered 40. They showed their faith by their works.

Elder James Goodrich said the Chasetown Branch numbered 21, and was in a better condition than it had been for some time.

Elder Chas. Shumway said the Birmingham District was composed of good Saints.

Elder Alma Eldredge said the Saints in the Herefordshire District were a

good, kind, generous, warm-hearted people.

Pres. Shumway said the Conference was composed of 12 Branches, consisting of 87 Elders, 39 Priests, 23 Teachers, 24 Deacons, and 725 members; total, 898. He reported favorably of the financial affairs.

The authorities of the Church were ther presented in the usual order and sustained unanimously.

2.30 p.m.

Elder John Tuddenham said, forty years ago the religionists of the age were jubilant with the thoughts of converting the whole world, but now the leading minds of the day are of a very different way of thinking. They are of opinion that nothing short of the coming of the Messiah will bring peace on earth.

Pres. G. H. Knowlden said that the Elders of Israel knew that the work was of God, and desired to save the human family.

Pres. G. Lake said the Elders came here because the Lord called them. He knew that the principles taught were the eternal truths of Heaven.

Pres. J. Q. Knowlton had often seen the arm of the Lord manifested in behalf of this people, and by His assistance they had been able to make the desert to blossom like the rose.

Pres. A. H. Neff knew that there was more happiness and unity amongst the Latter-day Saints than amongst any other people. The world had

tried to annihilate Mormonism, but it would increase and fill the earth.

Pres. Nebeker said that the Lord had always given him strength sufficient for his day. He had no trouble, and he rejoiced under all circumstances. The Elders could not impart a knowledge of the truth of the work, but could tell the people how they could obtain that knowledge.

6 p.m.

Pres. Romney addressed the meeting in an interesting and spirited manner.

Pres. Carrington occupied the remainder of the time, commending the faithfulness, zeal and diligence of both officers and members throughout the whole of the European Mission, and giving such counsels, instructions and encouragement as he was directed by the Spirit.

The singing by the choir at the opening and closing of each service, under the able management of Elder Charles Cook, admirably assisted by Mr. Henry Plummer and band, was excellent, and was much commended by some of the speakers.

On Monday evening, Jan. 31, under the direction of Elder G. Baugh, R. J. Filoe, W. Tims, and W. Scott, Elder C. Cook, conductor, and Elder T. Green, manager, a concert in the same Hall afforded an evening's very pleasant relaxation, recreation and enjoyment to a large audience.

W. SCOTT, Clerk.

## UTAH NEWS.

THE following are from the *Deseret News* to January 19:—

Charlotte Thompson was playing at the Theatre.

H. J. Faust runs omnibuses to and from the R. R. depot, calling at all the hotels.

John Jackson, aged 51 years, was killed, Jan. 5, while en route from Salt Lake City to Lehi.

Several days of snowy and stormy weather at Salt Lake, sloppy and unpleasant for the juvenile ball at the Theatre Jan. 15.

Elder Elias Morris had shown the *News* some beautiful mink and marten furs, manufactured by the Fifteenth Ward Fur and Glove Company.

The first coal by rail direct to Salt Lake City arrived there Jan. 13, consisting of two car loads from the Wasatch Coal Companies' mines, consigned to Mr. F. A. Mitchell.

The ladies of Springville assembled in mass meeting, Jan. 14, to give vent to their indignation Oulloom and Oragin wise. Mrs. Cynthia Clyde, president; Misses Ida and Ina Johnson, secretaries.

The U. P. R. R. was blockaded with snow in the vicinity of Church Buttes, Jan. 19, the snow being 12 to 18 inches deep and drifting badly. The R. R. company had a large force of men endeavoring to clear the track.

"Billy, the mail boy," reported from Portage, Jan. 13, that a good co-operative store had been built there. There had been but little snow, and the roads were frequently dry and dusty. Feed was plentiful and the stock on the range was doing well.

There was a military ball in the Theatre Jan. 14. "Unalloyed pleasure and entire satisfaction at the arrangements were the expressions heard everywhere around." A juvenile party was had Jan. 15. The weather was unfavorable, pelting rain and drifting snow made the travelling exceedingly unpleasant.

Bishop D. H. Holladay, of Santaquin, reported, Jan. 18, all well at that place, the people trying to live their religion and perfectly satisfied. They were moving to erect a Council House, 25 by 16 feet, two stories high. The weather had been so favorable that lumbering in the cañons had been carried on all the winter. The health of the settlement was good.

Brother Morris Phelps wrote from Montpelier, Rich Co., Jan. 1. They were having a favorable winter, weather clear and cold, with about four inches of snow. The people felt well and were trying to live their religion, day and Sunday schools were well attended, Female Relief Society was doing good, no whiskey selling in the settlement. On New Year's Day the citizens turned out for a sleighing frolic, with a brass band.

"A. C. S." wrote from Mendon, Jan. 1. On Christmas day the school children (about 150) were made happy by the distribution of prizes after a number of exercises, in which they acquitted themselves creditably. The Elders' Quorum was delivering lectures on Tuesday evenings, the Dramatic Association was in full running order, the Co-operative Store was prosperous and giving satisfaction, and the Saints were trying to live their religion and keep pace with the times.

Brother Hyrum S. Coombs wrote from Kanosh City, Jan. 10, that a commodious meetinghouse had been erected and nearly completed there since April Conference. A Sunday school examination was held in the new meetinghouse Jan. 7, when 225 children assembled and "spoke their pieces," 150 in number. Brother Dennis Dorrity, superintendent. The health of the people was good, the Co-operative Store was doing well, with good prospects. The citizens were intending to farm largely the coming season.

Elder Geo. K. Bowering wrote from Panacca, Meadow Valley, Washington County, Jan. 8. The settlement was prosperous, good houses were going up, and other improvements were moving. Elder A. F. Barron, Bishop of the Ward, was on a mission east. Since his departure the Ward had been re-organized, with Elder James Henri, sen., presiding High Priest and acting Bishop. A Female Relief Society had been organized. The Ward had a Sunday school of 125 scholars, and a day school of 70. During Christmas and New Year's holidays the people had a good time with dancing and other amusements. They "wish it understood that, though residing in a secluded and retired part of the Territory, they are alive to their duties as Saints and striving to live their religion."

We have received a copy of the *Ogden Junction* No. 5 and 6, Jan. 15 and 19. It is a good looking, well filled sheet, a little less than the *Deseret News*, and is published every Wednesday and Saturday, but by whom does not appear. We reckon it on our list of friends and exchanges and wish it prosperity. We extract and condense from its columns the following:—

The road into Ogden Valley was impassable for several days. The snow was two feet on the level in that little valley.

About four inches of snow in Cache Valley. Weather moderate, people enjoying themselves in social amusements.

The Ogden City Council had passed a rather stringent ordinance to regulate and control the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors.

Rev. Geo. W. Freeman, District Secretary and Superintendent of Missions of the American Baptist Home Mission Society for the U. P. and C. P. Railroads, preached a sermon in the Ogden Tabernacle, Jan. 18, on the mission and atonement of Christ.

Brother Thomas Richardson, of Slaterville, reported the people of that place doing well and enjoying the usual winter pastimes. They had no sickness, there was no lack of the staff of life, and the animals were well provided for. The day school was well attended.

A party of 135 young ladies and gentlemen, students at Mr. J. Morgan's college, with about 23 guests, left Salt Lake City, Jan. 13, on a pleasure excursion, per U. C. R. R., to Ogden. The day was anything but propitious, the snow falling and the wind driving it about, so a contemplated promenade through Ogden had to be relinquished. Arrived at Ogden, the company proceeded to the upper room of the Seventies' Hall, where a branch school of the college is held, superintended by Mr. W. W. Burton, who was waiting to receive the visitants. A picnic and ball followed, and music and merriment prevailed. In the room below were editors, typos, and "devil" of the *Junction*, vainly endeavoring to work out of thought the revelry above. Messrs. Morgan and Burton went to the rescue and invited all hands to ascend to the upper room and be gay and festive. No sooner said than done, and a good time was enjoyed. The company were addressed by Messrs. James McGaw and J. Morgau. The excursionists returned by the evening train to the city.

The obsequies of Bishop Chauncey Walker West took place at Ogden, Jan. 16, and were attended by many of the leading officers of the Nauvoo Legion of Weber and adjacent districts, several members of the Twelve, and many citizens of Ogden and Salt Lake Cities, and of Weber and adjoining counties. The services were conducted in the Tabernacle, and the remains of the deceased were buried in the cemetery, Ogden. Bishop West was the son of Alvin and Sally West, and was born in Erie County, Pennsylvania, Feb. 6, 1827. While on missions he visited Hindostan, Ceylon, China, many portions of Britain, also Scandinavia, Switzerland, Italy, and other parts of Europe. He was presiding Bishop of Weber County since 1856, and was in many respects one of the foremost men of Ogden City and Weber County, identified with every important public work therein.

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#### SCRAPS OF NEWS.

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In the U. S. House of Representatives, Jan. 20, Hon. W. H. Hooper presented a memorial, signed by 22,000 citizens of Utah, praying admission as a State. Memorial was referred.—The Legislatures of Iowa, Kansas, and Wisconsin have each elected a woman as enrolling clerk.—Senator Morton, of Indiana, "the ablest Republican in the (U.S.) Senate," proposes to follow up the reconstruction doctrine to its consequences, and deal with the States, if necessary, after they have been readmitted.—In the United States winter has been postponed on account of the mildness of the weather.—It is said there never was a Congress of the United States numbering so few brilliant men as the present.—Church parsons are getting uneasy about the "indelibility of holy orders"—once a priest always a priest. Some of them want to turn laymen, as

preaching does not always pay.—Beecher supposes he does slop over sometimes.—The Springfield (Massachusetts) "Republican" does actually think Oneida Communism worse than Mormonism.—The Marquis de Boissieres has undertaken the culture of silk in Franklin county, Kansas, and is well convinced of success.—Minnesota had a tremendous snow-storm in the middle of January.—A terrible tornado or cyclone tore to fragments half of Cave City, Kentucky, wounding 35 persons, a third of them fatally. Some people residing near the scene stole many of the household articles scattered by the wind.—Paper is now made out of okra and southern sugar-cane.—Miss Emma Hardy, of Wilton, Maine, stands six feet eight inches high and weighs 376 pounds.—Several little "onpleasantnesses" arose in both houses of Congress over the Virginia bill.—Parliament is to be asked the present session to consider the Irish land question, national education, naturalization laws, judiciary improvements, university tests, local taxes, liquor laws, land transfers and succession to property, merchant shipping, and agrarian crime in Ireland.—A newspaper correspondent thinks it would be truer economy to make work for the unemployed than that they should become desperate.—Hugh Stowell Brown says, "With all our many advantages as a people, ignorance is threatening us with destruction."—A meeting at Holbeck, Yorkshire, adopted resolutions declaring that the Contagious Diseases Acts are directly opposed to the moral, social, and religious welfare of the country, and ought to be repealed.—It is written that in the last days seven women shall take hold of the skirts of one man, etc., and nine women in America are after the skirts of the late Mr. Geo. Peabody, for they say he loved them all.—In a futile insurrection in Paris over the arrest of M. Rochefort, many persons were wounded.—Liverpool town council, after "wicked extravagance," is getting economical, cheeseparingly so, it is said, "several poor clerks" of long and faithful service, and "obscure servants," having been discharged instead of the "high-paid officials."—About a score snow-ballers on the Liverpool "Change" were arrested, Feb. 9, and fined 5s. to 40s. costs.—John Bright is sick from overstrain and has gone a fishing.—In the international wrestling matches in London the French and the English competitors each won in their respective styles.—During 1869, 258,989 emigrants landed at New York.—The Captain General of Cuba has been seriously ill through eating meat kept in a metal box.—Freshests in Chiapa, Mexico, have caused the loss of 200 lives and much property.—The Jews expelled from Russia are emigrating to the United States.—An Iowa preacher thinks "the Bible is the most important work that has yet been published in the United States."—"Mrs. Dr. Mary Walker says she objects to the present style of ladies' dresses, because it destroys all idea of the form below the waist." Can't that be safely left to the imagination, Mary?—Lake Windermere has been frozen over this year for the first time since 1854.—It is said that the Chinese emigrants to California are the worst people from the worst province in the empire—many of them pirates, robbers, and outcasts.—Messrs. Newman have established silk manufacture at San Francisco.—In Canada, in criminal cases, prisoners have the option of being tried with or without a jury.—Superior artificial precious stones, with a basis of alumina, are now produced.—The number of wrecks reported the week ending Feb. 5, was 35, making for the present year a total of 226.—Mr. Fawcett told his Brighton constituents that "in one of the largest London parishes there are only twice as many ratepayers as there are paupers." Between aristocratic paupers and plebian paupers the ratepayers have a hard time.—Lord Robert Montague told the Huntington people that "the friends of humanity are never the friends of the poor man."—A man at Blyth is the father of 38 children by three wives, the first bringing him 18, the second 10, and the third 10 and still likely.—The reign of terror has been completely established in Meath.—Rev. Newman Hall wont accept a D.D.-ship. He thinks there are plenty of Dr. Halls.—The more England tries to pacify Ireland, the more she wont be pacified.—Ireland wants fight, not pacification.—Moscow has the Asiatic cholera in its worst form.—At a Birmingham meeting a proposal was made to photograph all drunkards.—M. Rochefort has been sentenced to six months' imprisonment for inciting the army to revolt.—A lady's curl of hair is worth 10s. 6d. Robert Passmore of Brentford had to pay that to Matilda Davis for losing one of her curls.—The old panacea for crime is up again—"Educate the people"—William Perry, the "Tipton Slaughter," is in the Gateshead workhouse.—Calcraft, the hangman, fails, and 134 candidates have applied for the office.—American feminine criminals are usually "young and beautiful and intelligent," the old and ugly and ignorant don't commit all the crime.—Parliament opened Feb. 8.—London had a heavy fall of snow Feb. 11.—A conspiracy, compromising M. Rochefort, to assassinate Napoleon, has been discovered.